



BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Annual Notice of Variable Interest Rates of Federal Student Loans Made under the Federal Family Education Loan Program Prior to July 1, 2010

AGENCY: Federal Student Aid, Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Chief Operating Officer for Federal Student Aid announces the variable interest rates for the period July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, for certain loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program. The Chief Operating Officer takes this action to give notice of FFEL Program loan variable interest rates to the public.

DATES: This notice is applicable **[INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rene Tiongquico, U.S. Department of Education, 830 First Street, NE., 11th floor, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 377-4270 or by email: Rene.Tiongquico@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.032.

Section 427A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1077a), provides formulas for determining the interest rates charged to borrowers on loans made under the FFEL Program, including Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, and Federal Consolidation Loans.

The FFEL Program includes loans with variable interest rates and loans with fixed interest rates. Most loans made under the FFEL Program before July 1, 2006, have variable interest rates that change each year. In most cases, the variable interest rate formula that applies to a particular loan depends on the date of the first disbursement of the loan. The variable rates are determined annually and are effective for each 12-month period beginning July 1 of one year and ending June 30 of the following year.

Under section 427A(1) of the HEA, FFEL Program loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2006, and before July 1, 2010, have a fixed interest rate. Interest rates for these loans may be found in a *Federal Register* notice published on September 15, 2015 (80 FR 55342).

Federal Consolidation Loans made prior to November 13, 1997, and on or after October 1, 1998, have a fixed interest rate that is based on the weighted average of the loans that are consolidated. Interest rates for Federal Consolidation Loans made between November 13, 1997, and September 30, 1998, are provided in Chart 3.

FFEL variable interest rates are based on formulas that use the bond equivalent rate of the 91-day Treasury bill auctioned at the final auction held before June 1 of each year plus a statutorily established add-on. These formulas apply to: all Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans first disbursed before October 1, 1992, that have been converted to variable rate loans; all Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 1992, and before July 1, 2006; Federal PLUS Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 1998, and before July 1, 2006; and Federal Consolidation Loans for which the Federal Consolidation Loan application was received on or after November 13, 1997, and before

October 1, 1998. In each case, the calculated rate is capped by a maximum interest rate. The bond equivalent rate of the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned on May 30, 2017, which is used to calculate the interest rates on these loans, is 0.976 percent rounded up to 0.98 percent.

For Federal PLUS loans first disbursed before July 1, 1998, the interest rate is based on the weekly average of the one-year constant maturity Treasury yield, as published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the last day of the calendar week ending on or before June 26 of each year, plus a statutory add-on percentage. The calculated rate is capped by a maximum interest rate. The weekly average of the one-year constant maturity Treasury yield published on June 26, 2017, which is used to calculate the interest rate on these loans, is 1.22 percent.

For Federal Consolidation loans for which the application was received by the lender on or after November 13, 1997, the interest rate that includes portions of Federal Consolidation Loans attributable to loans made by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under subpart I of part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act, is based on the average of the bond equivalent rates of the 91-day Treasury bills auctioned for the

quarter ending June 30, 2017, plus a statutory add-on percentage. There is no maximum interest rate for these loans. The average of the bond equivalent rates of the 91-day Treasury bill auctioned for the quarter ending on June 30, 2017, which is used to calculate the interest rate on these loans, is 0.92 percent.

This notice includes three charts containing specific information on the calculation of variable interest rates for loans made under the FFEL Program:

Chart 1 contains information on the interest rates for Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans that were made as fixed-rate loans, but were subsequently converted to variable-rate loans.

Chart 2 contains information on the interest rates for variable-rate Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans.

Chart 3 contains information on the interest rates for variable-rate Federal PLUS Loans, certain Federal Consolidation Loans, and Consolidation Loans that include loans made by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under subpart I of part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act.

Chart 1 - "Converted" Variable-Rate Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans Interest Rates in Effect for the Period 7/1/2017 through

6/30/2018						
Cohort		Original Fixed Interest Rate	Max. Rate	91- Day T- Bill Rate	Margin	Total Rate
First Disbursed On or After	First Disbursed Before					
7/1/1988	7/23/1992	8.00%, increasing to 10.00%	10.00%	0.98%	3.25%	4.23%
7/23/1992	10/1/1992	8.00%, increasing to 10.00%	10.00%	0.98%	3.25%	4.23%
7/23/1992	7/1/1994	7.00%	7.00%	0.98%	3.10%	4.08%
7/23/1992	7/1/1994	8.00%	8.00%	0.98%	3.10%	4.08%
7/23/1992	7/1/1994	9.00%	9.00%	0.98%	3.10%	4.08%
7/23/1992	7/1/1994	8.00%, increasing to 10.00%	10.00%	0.98%	3.10%	4.08%

Note: The FFEL Program loans represented by the second row of the chart were only made to “new borrowers” on or after July 23, 1992. Whether the FFEL Program loans represented by the third through sixth rows of Chart 1 were made to a specific borrower depends on the interest rate on the borrower’s existing loans (see the “Original Fixed Interest Rate” column in Chart 1) at the time the borrower received the loan(s) on or after July 23, 1992, and prior to July 1, 1994.

In Charts 2 and 3, a dagger following a date in a cohort field indicates that the trigger for the rate to apply is a period of enrollment for which the loan was intended either “ending before” or “beginning on or after” the date in the cohort field.

Chart 2 - Variable-Rate Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans Interest Rates in Effect for the Period 7/1/2017 through 6/30/2018							
Cohort		Max. Rate	91- Day T- Bill Rate	Margin		Total Rate	
First Disburse d On or After	First Disburse d Before			In- School, Grace, Defermen t	All Other Period s	In- School, Grace, Defermen t	All Other Period s
10/1/1992	7/1/1994	9.00 %	0.98 %	3.10%	3.10%	4.08%	4.08%
7/1/1994	7/1/1994 [†]	9.00 %	0.98 %	3.10%	3.10%	4.08%	4.08%
7/1/1994	7/1/1995	8.25 %	0.98 %	3.10%	3.10%	4.08%	4.08%
7/1/1995	7/1/1998	8.25 %	0.98 %	2.50%	3.10%	3.48%	4.08%
7/1/1998	7/1/2006	8.25 %	0.98 %	1.70%	2.30%	2.68%	3.28%

Note: The FFEL Program loans represented in the first row in Chart 2 were only made to “new borrowers” on or after October 1, 1992. The FFEL Program loans represented in the second row in Chart 2 were only made to “new borrowers” on or after July 1, 1994. The FFEL Program loans represented in the third row in Chart 2 must--in addition to having been first disbursed on or after July 1, 1994, and before July 1, 1995--have been made for a period of enrollment that began on or included July 1, 1994.

Chart 3 - Variable-Rate Federal PLUS, SLS, and Consolidation Loans Interest Rates in Effect for the Period 7/1/2017 through 6/30/2018							
Loan Type	Cohort		Max. Rate	Index Rate		Margin	Total Rate
	First Disbursed On or After	First Disbursed Before		91- Day T- Bill Rate	1-Year Constant Treasury Maturity		

PLUS and SLS	-	10/1/1992	12.00%	-	1.22%	3.25%	4.47%
SLS	10/1/1992	7/1/1994 [†]	11.00%	-	1.22%	3.10%	4.32%
PLUS	10/1/1992	7/1/1994	10.00%	-	1.22%	3.10%	4.32%
PLUS	7/1/1994	7/1/1998	9.00%	-	1.22%	3.10%	4.32%
PLUS	7/1/1998	7/1/2006	9.00%	0.98%	-	3.10%	4.08%
Loan Type	Application Received on or After	Application Received Before	Max. Rate	91-Day T-Bill Rate	Average of the Bond Equivalent Rates of the 91-Day T-bill for the Quarter Prior to July 1	Margin	Total Rate
Consolidation	11/13/1997	10/1/1998	8.25%	0.98%	-	3.10%	4.08%
HHS Portion of Consolidation	11/13/1997	-	-	-	0.92%	3.00%	3.92%

The last row in Chart 3 refers to portions of Federal Consolidation Loans attributable to loans made by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under subpart I of part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act.

Note: No new loans have been made under the FFEL Program since June 30, 2010.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.

Dated: August 14, 2017.

A. Wayne Johnson,

Chief Operating Officer,

Federal Student Aid.

[FR Doc. 2017-17424 Filed: 8/16/2017 8:45 am; Publication Date: 8/17/2017]